

crowning hills, not understanding the law by which a flood would run with all inequalities of level thru a little pipe. All we want for a nobler efflux is that head of power in the heart which genuine ownership of Deity will supply, and which makes men as fresh and young at eighty as at twenty, with feeling virgin and untouched.

If, after the Latin motto, prudence is a great revenue, so is reverence. How men sweat and toil to beat in the arena or to distance in the race! But when I tie to that will which is a perpetual going forth, I feel like a skiff towed at a steamer's stern; for we can use up gravitation sooner than God. My neighbor got tired pumping water into the tank at his housetop, and he put a vane on his barn over the well, so that it now furnishes kitchen and table and hose sprinkler, with a fountain in front of his lawn into the bargain, while from his siesta he looks on. Doubtless we must work as well as wait; but there is no work like subduing our own selfish will.

The Duty of Lowliness

Selected.

If we cannot, at need, even humiliate ourselves to win our brother, it is difficult to see where our religion comes in, especially when we think what humiliation Christ suffered, that he might reconcile us to God, and make us friends again with our heavenly Father, and renew our broken love. Whatever be our faith and works, and however correct be our creed and conduct, if we are stiffening ourselves in strife and disdain, we are none of his, who was meek and lowly of heart.

Misunderstandings and estrangements will arise, occasions will come when it seems as if not even love and forbearance can avoid a quarrel, but surely Christ has died in vain if his grace cannot save us from continuance of strife.

Gloomy Christians

Evangelical Messenger.

Faith and grace stand for good cheer, courage, and contentment. Despondency is a contradiction of blessed assurance and the lively hope of a true follower of the Lord. Satan has many ways of duping the children of light. One of his most successful methods is to hold up the dark side of things. If he can get a Christian under a spell of gloominess and keep him there, and then induce him to go about sowing seeds of discontent and discouragement among others, he has a good emissary.

Gloomy Christians cannot grow until they get out into the sun-light of God's grace and shine for Christ, instead of exhibiting a long, cheerless, hopeless face in the name of religion. Wake up, cheer up, and be a light-bearer, a comfort to others, and not a vexation to the faithful of the Lord.

Prayer and personal activity in the Lord's work will chase away gloom, and tend to cultivate a cheerful, hopeful disposition of heart and mind. To think of God and to

talk with him, and to study his will and his purposes concerning the redemption of the world, inspires faith and hope and courage, and brings joy and gladness, leaving no room for morbid sadness.

Gratitude

Lyman Abbott, D. D.

It was a hot August afternoon, and the clouds had long withheld their shadows and their rain, and a little flower lay dying. As it lay there, looking piteously up into the heavens and longing for refreshment, a drop fell down, and then another and another all about it, and fed its roots, and the flower, refreshed and revived and brought back to life, lifted up its face and said, "Drop, I thank you; you have saved my life."

And the drop said, "Thank us not; the clouds sent us."

And the flower lifted up its face toward the heavens and said, "O cloud, in thy summer glory, I thank thee; thou hast saved my life."

And the cloud said, "Thank not me; the sun drew me from the ocean and the wind wafted me here; thank sun, thank wind."

And the flower, perplexed and puzzled, turned its face hither and thither, saying to the sun and to the wind, "O sun, I thank thee; thou hast brought this water from the far-off ocean; I thank thee, O wind, that on thy wings thou didst bear it here for my refreshment."

The sun and the wind said, "Thank not us; thank God, who gave the ocean and the sun and the wind, and caused the drops to fall."

And then the Christianity-instructed flower lifted up its face and said, "O God, I thank thee who didst make the ocean and didst give the sun power to draw the cloud from the ocean, and didst give the winds their wings to bring the clouds hither, and didst drop drops from the clouds which brought me back to life."

So may we turn all our joy to gratitude.

Missions

Indiana State Missions

I want to call special attention to a few donors to our State mission fund of this year.

1. Brother and Sister Rhinehart of the Flora church have so far this year given to our State work \$14 50 and no doubt have helped along in local church expense.

2. Sister Teague and children, Octave Abijah and Charles of the Roann church have given to our State fund \$4 00 this year. Their living depends on their labor yet cheerfully do they give to the cause we all love. And if all who are members of our church were as sacrificing who can realize the good which might be done by the use of the funds thus collected?

3. I desire to call attention to the fact that Brother Stevens of the Sidney church

and Brother Menaugh of the Mt. Union church have given to our State work as many dollars as there are members in their homes. Surely a commendable example.

4. Among our Roann donors to our mission fund is little Freddie Bryan for a dollar. As he grows older may he realize what Christ gave for our good and be a power in the army of the Christians.

5. Among the donors from the New Highland church is little Davy Pontious. He said he desired to give a dollar and when asked where he expected to get it he said, "I will sell my chickens and give the money." So with a spirit of gladness he handed me the dollar a few days ago. I can only say may God bless the little ones among our number who thus early in life desire to help the cause.

In conclusion will say our fund is slowly going to the mark set but it must go a little faster if we intend to reach the mark. There are yet near one hundred outstanding pledges. Should it be your desire you can get the same cancelled any time by remitting one dollar.

WM. H. MILLER, Sec.

North Manchester, Ind.

From the National Capital

In this connection permit me again to refer to that startling statement made by the editor of the *Gospel Messenger*, No. 25, present year, page 394. It seems that some of that fraternity do not get the same meaning from his statement that I get. He says that the "order" is not made a "test of fellowship." Now the question is, does that "order" include the "bonnet and cap" as originally prescribed and required by those who laid down the rules for the sisters in the matter of dress? I take it that it does; if I should be mistaken, the Editor will please correct me. But why should I call that statement a "startling" one? Simply because I can scarcely believe that the time is now at hand when the vast brotherhood of the German Baptists can afford to say anything like that thru their official church paper. Less than ten years ago, the same editor refused to publish a series of articles written by your unworthy servant, not because said articles were not scripturally supported, as he candidly admitted, but because, as he said, "the brotherhood is not yet able to receive that portion of the truth." He returned the manuscript to me at my request and said that in the course of a few years no doubt he could publish it without doing harm. I still have the articles on hand within two feet of where I now write, and Brother Moore may still publish them if he so desires, but within the last five years I have seen many articles published by him that contain even stronger assertions than were contained in mine. But does the practice of the German Baptist church agree with the statement under consideration, that the order is no longer made a "test of fellowship"? I feel safe in saying that it does, with the one ex-